

midway between eye and end of snout; præmaxillary teeth forming a short crescentic band; maxillary barbel once and $\frac{1}{5}$ length of head; outer mandibular barbel $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head, inner $\frac{1}{2}$. Dorsal I 6, well in front of vertical of ventrals, but nearer latter than base of pectorals, equally distant from end of snout and from middle of adipose fin; first branched ray $\frac{2}{3}$ length of head. Adipose fin low, 5 times as long as deep, twice as long as rayed dorsal. Anal II 7, a little nearer root of caudal than base of ventral. Pectoral longer than ventral, a little shorter than head. Caudal feebly emarginate. Caudal peduncle as long as deep. Dark olive above, whitish beneath; five round whitish spots on the back—one in front of the dorsal fin, one on each side of the last rays of the dorsal, one in front of the adipose fin, and one on the posterior extremity of the latter.

Total length 60 mm.

A single specimen from Mlanji, British Central Africa, presented by Mr. R. L. Harger.

Closely allied to *A. platychir*, Gthr., which occurs also in British Central Africa, but body shorter and barbels longer.

LXVIII.—*Description of a new African Snake of the Genus Simocephalus.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

Simocephalus Butleri.

Eye moderately large. Rostral once and a half as broad as deep, the portion visible from above measuring one third its distance from the frontal; internasals once and a half as broad as long, half the length of the præfrontals, which are nearly as long as the frontal; frontal slightly longer than broad, as long as its distance from the end of the snout, shorter than the parietals; loreal deeper than long; one præ- and three postoculars; the lower of the latter may be regarded as a subocular; temporals 1 + 2, the first narrowly separating, in front, the parietal from the fifth labial; seven upper labials, third and fourth entering the eye; five lower labials in contact with the anterior chin-shields, which are longer than the posterior. Scales in 15 rows, strongly keeled, with secondary tubercular keels. Ventrals 232; anal entire; subcaudals 58. Black above, each scale with a whitish basal spot, white beneath; ventrals edged with black on the sides; lower surface of tail greyish.

Total length 400 mm.; tail 55.

A single female specimen from between Wau and Chak Chak, in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province, presented to the British Museum by Mr. A. L. Butler.

This snake appears to be most nearly related to *S. Chanleri*, described by Dr. Stejneger from a specimen in bad condition obtained at the mouth of the Tana River, British East Africa. But the proportions of the head-shields and the coloration are too different to justify me in referring the Bahr-el-Ghazal specimen to that species.

LXIX.—*Descriptions of new Species of Land and Fresh-water Shells from Central and South America.* By H. B. PRESTON, F.Z.S.

Polita peruviana, sp. n. (Fig. 1.)

Shell somewhat depressed, thin, pale brownish horn-colour; whorls $4\frac{1}{2}$, sculptured with transverse, arcuate striæ; sutures deeply impressed; umbilicus wide and deep; peristome simple; aperture lunate.

Alt. 3.25, diam. maj. 7.25 mm.

Aperture: alt. 2, diam. 1.5 mm.

Hab. Chanchamayo, Peru.

Closely allied to *P. insignis*, D'Orb. *, which occurred with it; *P. peruviana* is, however, not so depressed and of a darker colour, the umbilicus is also rather narrower and the sutures though well defined do not present the almost channelled appearance which is the case with *P. insignis*.

Stephanoda bogotensis, sp. n. (Fig. 2.)

Shell orbicular, somewhat depressed, dark brown, showing traces of having been covered with a hairy periostracum; whorls $5\frac{1}{2}$, sculptured with fine, arcuate, transverse, and very minute spiral striæ; umbilicus very wide and deep; aperture lunate.

Alt. 4, diam. maj. 8 mm.

Aperture: alt. 2.5, diam. 1 mm.

Hab. Bogota, United States of Colombia.

Pleurodonte (Labyrinthus) Da Costiana, sp. n. (Fig. 3.)

Shell thin, subdepressed, carinate, pale brownish horn-colour; whorls $4\frac{1}{2}$, obliquely striate with lines of growth and

* Voy. Amér. Mérid. t. 26. ff. 14-17.